

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Literary works in the form of oral and written can be consumed by all people without exception in the free space and time. Wiyatmi (2011) Based on objective theory, literature is defined as a work of art that is autonomous, independent, and free from the author, reality, or reader. Based on the mimetic theory, literary works are considered imitations of nature or life. Based on the expressive theory, literary works are seen as expressions of writers, as outpourings of feelings or overflows of feelings and thoughts of writers. Meanwhile, based on pragmatic theory, literary works are seen as a means to convey certain goals. Literature is also an art form, as is anything written to reflect culture or society so literary works are the right media to convey the values of life.

Film is linked to literary work, it opens with a situation and also reflects on culture and social. It is a hybrid of technology, theater, music, artwork, and sound design, a film is a series of moving images in the form of a story known as a movie or video. Made by either recording images from the outside world with cameras or producing images with animation techniques or special effects. As an audio-visual that can capture sociocultural realities, of course, makes films able to convey the messages contained therein in the form of visual media (Alfathoni & Manesah, 2020).

Film does not only present something imaginary and entertaining, in its development, are now also combined with various sides of human life related to education, technology, science, and so on. Furthermore, many different types of cinema themes are frequently employed as the story's premise. The psychology theme is one of them.

A person can be said to be healthy if his body and mind are healthy, if only his body is healthy but his soul is not, then he cannot be called perfectly healthy. Pain is not only in physical function, pain can also occur in psychological functions. Psychology is a science that researches and studies behavior or activities that are seen as manifestations of human psychic life (Wiyatmi, 2011).

Psychological-themed films are widely used in the world of cinema. Many aspects of the psychological themes become the story of the film, psychology of disease or psychological disorders, one of them is a psychopath. films involving psychopaths fall into the thriller (psychological thriller) category. According to Alfani (2017) stated that the first psychological thriller film, *The Lodger*, was released in 1926 and was directed by Alfred Hitchcock. The film is a psychological thriller because it features a psychopath murderer and follows a typical plot of this genre. Suspense, tension, and excitement are key aspects of thriller literature, cinema, and television programming ("The History and Development of a Psychological Thriller").

The researcher was interested in researching a thesis on personal after watching a movie entitled “Fresh”. Fresh directed by Mimi Cave and written by Lauryn Kahn premiered at the Sundance Film Festival on January 20, 2022, and is now available on the Disney+ Hotstar streaming platform. A film in the comedy thriller genre and a bit of romance, starring Sebastian Stan as Steve and Daisy Edgar-Jones as Noa. The film about cannibalism entitled Fresh tells about the existence of a certain elite group whose members are all cannibals. They work with a man who used to kidnap his victims to be killed and the meat resold as fresh meat. Noa is a young girl who is looking for her ideal man by trying online dating. But after several attempts, he was disappointed and gave up on dating. Once when she went to the supermarket, Noa met a handsome man named Steve who captivated Noa. That first impression, Steven opened up an interesting chat with Noa and looked like a charming person. After a few dates, Steve invites Noa for a weekend together with him. Upon arriving at Steve's place, Noa is given a drink containing drugs which causes her to faint. When she wakes up, Noa is in a bunker with her hands tied. Noa also knows that it turns out that she is not the only one being held there, another victim is also being held in the next room. Noa is hysterical and starts to freak out, especially when Steve explains that he is a human butcher. He became a supplier of human flesh, especially women to be slaughtered and sold to wealthy clients for consumption. Steve would say that he would keep his victims alive as long as possible to keep the "meat" fresh; although some parts of his body have

been cut off. During his time as a prisoner, Steve allowed Noa to clean himself up, but Noa used that as an opportunity to escape. Steve became angry and cut Noa's body parts a bit and locked Noa up longer before he could come out to clean himself up again.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher tries to find a description of the psychological disorder that is reflected in the film. It can be an experience for the writer to understand a psychopath well. This is what makes the researcher interested in researching this film. The researcher believes that this film can be used as a lesson to society, especially to find out the behaviors of people around us who have psychopathic behavior. Based on the researcher's observation, the "Fresh" film has never been studied using a psychoanalytic approach. Therefore it is very interesting to reveal every aspect that occurs in the psychology of Brendan Steven Kemp's character in the film "Fresh"

1.2 Limitation of the Problem

It is critical to limit the scope of the study in order to retain clarity and match the research with its desired aims. Given the backdrop of the research, the focus of this psychology study will be on psychopaths as portrayed by the character Steve in the film 'Fresh.' To accomplish this goal, the researcher will largely employ the theories of Sigmund Freud and Robert D. Hare.

1.3 Research Question

Based on what is explained above, the researcher formulated two problems as follows:

1. How are the characteristics of Steve's psychopathic portrayed in the movie "Fresh"?
2. What are the factors that make Steve's character become a psychopath in the movie "Fresh"?

1.4 The Objective of the Research

Based on the research questions above, the objectives of the research were supposed to be:

1. To describe the characteristics of Steve's psychopathic portrayed in the movie "Fresh"

To identify the factors that make Steve's character become a psychopath in the movie "Fresh"

